#### STATE OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

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4 In the Matter of:

INDUSTRIAL SERVICE OIL CO., INC.

U.S EPA ID No. CAD 099 452 708

1700 South Soto Street

Los Angeles, California

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Docket HWCA 06/07-P002

ORDER TO SET BRIEFING PERIOD FOR PETITION FOR REVIEW AND DENIAL OF REVIEW

California Code of Regulations, title 22, Section 66271.18(c)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

On December 18, 2006, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (Department or DTSC) issued a Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Permit) decision for Industrial Service Oil Company, Inc. (ISOCI), located at 1700 South Soto Street, Los Angeles, California.

Five petitions for review (appeal) of the Department's decision were filed on or before March 5, 2007. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.14(b) (2), the permit decision has been stayed pending the Department's determination whether the appeals meet the criteria for granting a review. In the interim, ISOCI continues to be authorized to operate the facility under the terms and conditions of the Interim Status document.

#### II. JURISDICTION

The Department has jurisdiction over hazardous waste facility permits and the imposition of conditions on such permits pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code section 25200 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18.

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#### III. BACKGROUND

#### A. FACILITY DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

The ISOCI Facility is a used oil and spent antifreeze treatment, storage and recycling facility, which commenced operations in 1974. In 1986, the Department granted the Facility interim status for the operation of a hazardous waste treatment and storage facility.

The Facility is located on a 2.2 acre triangular lot, and an adjacent parcel of land, at 1700 South Soto Street, in the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles. The Facility property and the immediate adjacent areas are zoned for heavy industrial use interspersed with a few commercially zoned areas. The City of Vernon, located about one-half mile south of the Facility, is zoned primarily for industrial uses. The closest residences are located approximately one-half mile north of the Facility.

Current authorized operations at the Facility include the processing of used oil (which is regulated as hazardous waste) to produce recycled oil. Used oil processing involves the use of heat and addition of chemicals to separate solids, water and other impurities from the used oil. Treated used oil must continue to be managed as a hazardous waste until it has been analyzed and certified as meeting the regulatory criteria for recycled oil. The recycled oil is sold to petroleum buyers that use it for various purposes. The Facility also receives waste antifreeze, which it consolidates and ships off-site for recycling.

The Facility is currently authorized to store up to 350,000 gallons of waste liquids: up to 15,000 gallons for spent antifreeze and the remainder for used oil. One of the seven tanks is also authorized under the Facility's current Interim Status Document to be used for the storage of treated oil pending laboratory analysis and certification as recycled oil. In the event a laboratory certification analysis indicates that tested oil does not meet the regulatory standards for recycled oil, the oil continues to be regulated as a hazardous waste and is removed from the storage tank, processed in the Facility's used oil treatment unit, and re-analyzed for certification as recycled oil. Oil that continues to

fail certification requirements is sent off-site for disposal as a hazardous waste.

#### B. PERMIT DECISION

ISOCI submitted a RCRA-equivalent Part A permit application to the Department on May 23, 1986, with subsequent revisions dated March 9, 1989, and October 8, 2004. The Department issued an Interim Status Document, under which ISOCI has been operating, in 1986.

The initial Part B permit application to the Department was submitted in 1988. This Part B permit application was revised in August 1994, 1997, and September 2000 (revision 0) by the Facility's consultant, Southcoast Wastec, Inc. dba JRJ Associates, under the direction of Joseph R. Johnson.

EP Consultants, on behalf of the Facility, submitted revised applications in June 2002 (Revision 1), October 2002 (Revision 2), November 2003 (Revision 3), June 2004 (Revision 4), August 2004 (Revision 5), October 2004 (Revision 6) and August 2005 (Revision 7).

On December 15, 2005, the Department issued a public notice announcing the start of a 60-day public comment period for both the Draft Permit and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). That comment period ran from December 15, 2005, through February 13, 2006. A public hearing was held on January 21, 2006, at the Ross Snyder Recreational Center, 1501 East 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Los Angeles, California. During the initial public comment period and at the public hearing, members of the community requested an extension to the 60-day comment period. The Department extended the comment period until April 14, 2006.

On December 18, 2006, the Department issued a Notice of Final Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Decision and established a 30-day period ending on January 19, 2007 for filing a request for review of the decision under California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18. The Department also prepared a Response to Comments document, a copy of which was sent to each commenter. The Response to Comments document, the Department memorandum to file listing the revisions made to

the Draft Permit in response to public comments, and a redline/strikeout version of the permit showing all the changes from the Draft to the Final Permit, were made available to the public at the Department's Glendale Office and at the Robert Louis Stevenson Branch Library, 803 Spence Street, Los Angeles, California. The Final EIR was also available for review at these locations. These documents were also available for viewing on DTSC's website.

On January 2, 2007, the Department issued an Amended Notice of Final Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Decision, extending the period to submit a petition for review of the final permit decision to February 1, 2007.

On February 1, 2007, the Department issued another Amended Notice of Final Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Decision, further extending the review period to March 5, 2007.

#### C. PERMIT APPEAL PROCESS

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), the period for filing a petition for review (appeal) of the ISOCI final permit decision ended on March 5, 2007. Five petitions for review were received on or before that date:

- 1. Communities for a Better Environment by Adrienne L. Bloch, joined by California Coalition Against Taxes by Jane Williams and ProUno by Felipe Aguirre.
- 2. Terry Cano;
- 3. Industrial Service Oil Company, Inc. (ISOCI) by E P Consultants;
- 4. Los Angeles City Councilmember Jose Huizar;
- 5. Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles (CRA/LA).

The final permit decision has been stayed pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.14(b)(2), until the Department has completed review of the appeals and determined which, if any, of the issues raised in the appeals meet the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18 for granting review.

#### IV. STANDARD OF REVIEW

California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), provides that any person who did not file comments or participate in the public hearing on the draft permit may petition the Department for review of the final permit decision, but only with respect to those conditions in the final permit decision that differ from the draft permit. In addition, those persons who filed comments, or participated in the public hearing, on the draft permit (during the public comment period for the draft permit) may petition the Department to review any condition of the final permit decision to the extent that the issues raised in the petition for review were also raised during the public comment period for the draft permit decision, including the public hearing.

California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) also provides, in pertinent part, that:

"The petition shall include a statement of the reasons supporting that review, including a demonstration that any issues being raised were raised during the public comment period (including any public hearing) to the extent required by these regulations and when appropriate, a showing that the condition in question is based on:

- (1) a finding of fact or conclusion of law which is clearly erroneous, or
- (2) an exercise of discretion or an important policy consideration which the Department should, in its discretion, review."

California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.12, specifies the extent to which issues are required to be raised during the public comment period for a draft permit decision. Specifically, this section states that "All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of a draft permit is inappropriate or that the Department's tentative decision to deny an application or prepare a draft permit is inappropriate, must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments and factual grounds supporting their position".

All but one of the Petitioners submitted comments on the Draft Permit during the public comment period. ProUno, who joined the petition filed by Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) did not submit comments or participate in the public hearing on the matter and, therefore, does not have standing to petition for review of any issues raised during the public comment period on the Draft Permit. The remaining Petitioners, including CBE, have standing to petition for review of any issues raised during the public comment period for the draft permit decision. All petitioners have standing to address any issues that pertain to changes from the draft to the final permit decision.

Additionally, any issues raised in the appeal that relate to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.) will not be addressed in this Order. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. The permit appeal process is not the proper forum to raise CEQA issues, as the regulation governing permit appeals provides that petitions for review may request review of permit conditions only.

#### V. <u>FINDINGS</u>

The Department has reviewed the appeals and has responded below to each Appeal Comment. Appeal Comments have been paraphrased for clarity and brevity. The Department has determined that the following appeal comments filed by Petitioners meet the criteria for granting review pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a): 1-7, 1-9, 1-11, 1-12, 1-13, 1-16, 1-17, 1-20, 1-21, 1-22, 1-23, 1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29, 1-30, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, and 3-4. DTSC is denying review of all remaining comments because they are either related to CEQA, pertained to the local land use permit process which is outside the Department's permit jurisdiction or the Petitioners failed to demonstrate that the permit condition was based on a finding of fact or conclusion of law which is clearly erroneous or an exercise of discretion or an important policy consideration that the Department should in its discretion review.

 Petition filed by Communities for a Better Environment CBE) by Adrienne L. Bloch, joined by California Coalition Against Taxes by Jane Williams and ProUno by Felipe Aguirre.

attempting to issue a permit for a large hazardous waste facility without requiring compliance with the Tanner Act, Health & Safety Code (H&SC) Section 25199, et seq., which establishes a detailed process to ensure community involvement in the significant land use decisions concerning hazardous waste facilities. DTSC has made a final decision on the permit, completed the CEQA process and issued a final EIR before the Tanner process is even scheduled to begin. Compliance with the Tanner Act was not required by DTSC. The Act was undermined by individual meetings with community groups that created a false sense of legitimacy.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that DTSC should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the petition for review. The Tanner Act process is outside of DTSC's permitting jurisdiction. DTSC is required to make a permit decision notwithstanding compliance with the Tanner Act process. See Health and Safety Code section 25199.3(a).

By way of explanation, DTSC acknowledges that whenever possible, the DTSC permit application process, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, and the Tanner Act process should run simultaneously. However, DTSC does not have the authority to require ISOCI to submit a local land use application, or to require the City to begin the Tanner Act process. We are not aware of any authority empowering DTSC to compel an applicant to initiate the Tanner process. The state of the law is that the only option available to DTSC is to condition the effectiveness of the permit on the applicant obtaining any necessary local land use permits. Please also see the response to Comment 1-2 by CBE below.

comment 1-2 by CBE (Tanner Act Community Involvement Process): DTSC may not approve the project until a determination by the County that the project is consistent with its Hazardous Waste Management Plan. DTSC's Special Condition 2.u., requiring that, "The permit for the proposed units shall not become effective until the applicant is granted a local land use permit." does not remedy DTSC's failure to coordinate its evaluation of the project to run simultaneously with the Tanner Act process.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that DTSC should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the petition for review.

By way of explanation, Health & Safety Code section 25135.4 provides, in pertinent part, that no person shall "establish or expand" a facility unless a consistency finding with the county hazardous waste management plan (CHWMP) has been made by the local legislative body of the city or county in which the new offsite facility, or the expansion of an existing offsite facility, is proposed. In other words, the terms of the statute require a consistency finding prior to the establishment or expansion of the facility rather than prior to issuance of a DTSC permit decision as the Comment requests. It should be further noted that the Tanner Act process is outside of DTSC's permitting jurisdiction. DTSC is required to make a permit decision notwithstanding compliance with the Tanner Act process. See Health and Safety Code section 25199.3(a).

Furthermore, the ISOCI permit application also covers existing operations which are regulated under a grant of interim status. DTSC is required by law to make a final permit determination for all existing facilities under Interim Status in a timely manner. The applicable permitting standards are more stringent in several aspects than the interim status standards. Thus, DTSC is obligated to process the permit for existing units and operations to protect human health and

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COMMENT 1-3 by CBE (Spanish Translation of Key Documents): Only the Fact Sheet, the public notice and the comment form were translated into Spanish initially. Later the executive summary of the dEIR was translated. Failure to translate all key documents into Spanish prevents equal participation by Spanish speakers.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the petition for review.

By way of explanation, DTSC conducted a community survey and interviews with interested community members to develop the most appropriate outreach strategy. The Department determined that even though a majority of the residents are Hispanic, the majority of those encountered and interacted with spoke and understood English, as well as Spanish. Accordingly, the Department determined which permit documents should be translated to ensure the broadest public participation. These actions are consistent with DTSC public participation plan and policy. DTSC further finds that its expanded public outreach program for this project took into consideration the community's needs. Following are the outreach activities that provided the community with opportunities to participate in the decision-making process.

- Surveys were translated into Spanish
- Fact Sheet was translated into Spanish
- Comment forms were translated into Spanish and a self addressed stamped envelope was provided
- Public notice was published in Eastside Sun (English and Spanish newspaper)
- Aired radio announcements on Que Buena (Spanish radio station)

- Translator was available at the Public Hearing
- The executive summary of the Draft EIR was translated into Spanish and posted on DTSC's web site
- Environmental justice organizations were notified (environmental justice organizations are on DTSC's mandatory mailing list)

#### COMMENT 1-4 by CBE(Community Outreach and Notification of Concerned

<u>Parties</u>): DTSC's outreach and public notification efforts were woefully inadequate and require correction, and were calculated to fail. Local elected officials did not receive any notification when the comment period was announced.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Accordingly, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the petition for review.

By way of explanation, it is clear from the public outreach activities outlined in Response 1-3 in the Response to Comments document dated December 18, 2006, that DTSC implemented an expanded public participation program for this decision. DTSC's efforts to reach out to members of the community and other stakeholders were extensive. Forty-eight individuals or organizations submitted comments, which provides some indication that the effort to reach potential stakeholders was effective.

COMMENT 1-5 by CBE (Availability of Public Documents): Core documents related to the proposed action were largely inaccessible to the communities that DTSC should have targeted, as well as out of town consultants. Members of the public were forced to travel and to copy at their own cost. Documents were posted late on the website. The entire administrative record was not made available at the beginning of the public comment period.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition

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of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the petition for review.

By way of explanation, DTSC extended the public comment period for an additional sixty days to ensure that interested persons had access to information. DTSC's Response to Comment 1-3 (December 2006 Response to Comments) provides a detailed description of how and when information was provided. These efforts were apparently effective as demonstrated by the volume of comments received from stakeholders.

COMMENT 1-6 by CBE (Description of Proposed Activities in Fact Sheet): The fact sheet produced by DTSC failed to adequately describe the project, including the plan to accept hundreds of new waste codes, storage arrangements for hazardous waste in rail cars without an adequate containment system, and the facility's enforcement history.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the petition for review.

By way of explanation, the Fact Sheet is meant to provide basic summary information about the facility, the action being taken by the Department and how interested persons can participate in the Department's proposed decision. The Fact Sheet adequately describes the proposed action, and refers the reader to the Draft Permit and associated documents. The Fact Sheet lists DTSC staff who may be contacted for additional information.

**COMMENT 1-7 by CBE (Rail Car Storage Containment):** The permit allows ISOCI to store up to 250,000 gallons of hazardous waste in rail cars for up to one year on a rail

spur without adequate secondary containment. Storage of this amount of hazardous waste for such an extended period of time is unprecedented in California, posing severe risks to the surrounding communities that have not been properly analyzed.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-8 by CBE (Acceptance of Additional Waste Codes): The permit authorizes ISOCI to radically expand the scope of operations at the facility without providing sufficient protections against the new risks posed by the facility's acceptance of additional types of hazardous waste. CBE requests that DTSC amend the permit to significantly limit the number of waste codes that the facility can accept, and to require ISOCI to demonstrate that it has safely managed a limited number of additional waste codes before it may accept more waste types.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a specific condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the petition for review. Evidence has not been provided which shows that the facility cannot manage these wastes appropriately.

COMMENT 1-9 by CBE (Waste Analysis Plan): The facility's Waste Analysis Plan (WAP) is complex and difficult to understand, and will be challenging to implement even with highly educated and trained personnel. CBE requested that personnel performing the WAP tasks have proper education and training. Figure III-2 of the WAP which refers to a flow chart for waste receiving procedures was not included in this version of the WAP. DTSC did not explain how this objective has been met. The WAP included in the Part B application is dated June 2004. There is no indication that DTSC has required ISOCI to revise the WAP to reflect that waste analysis tasks will always be Order to Set Briefing Period for Petition for Review and Denial of Review -ISOCI

performed by trained personnel, or to require that ISOCI document that all personnel have received appropriate training. The WAP is unclear as to which analyses will be performed in-house by ISOCI rather than by outside laboratory services and the WAP should be revised to clarify this issue.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment, and specifically regarding how the facility training plan will relate to and ensure proper implementation of the WAP.

COMMENT 1-10 by CBE (Waste Analysis Plan): A forced-air safety hood is required if "mixing experiments" are performed in-house and the WAP should be revised to clarify which analysis tasks will be performed in-house and require ISOCI to consult Cal/OSHA about their safety prior to the effective date of the permit. In addition, DTSC must analyze the potential environmental impact of this safety issue without regard to the regulatory agency involved.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a specific condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, the environmental impact review requested in this Appeal Comment is a CEQA related item. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

By way of explanation, ISOCI, like any other industry or business, is required to comply with applicable worker protection requirements administered by Cal/OSHA.

<u>COMMENT 1-11 by CBE (Waste Analysis Plan):</u> The frequency and methodology of "fingerprint testing" for incoming hazardous waste streams should be clarified. DTSC has not stated whether ISOCI has determined if adequate laboratory methodologies are available to quantify all the chemicals listed on Table III of the application. No specific Order to Set Briefing Period for Petition for Review and Denial of Review -ISOCI

analysis for hexavalent chromium is required even though there is a specific regulatory threshold level for this chemical in 22 CCR § 66261.24.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment.

<u>COMMENT 1-12 by CBE (Waste Analysis Plan):</u> DTSC has not identified the adequacy of the detection limits for PCBs and it is unclear why the facility will be allowed to process wastes that contain PCBs with concentrations up to 49 ppm.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-13 by CBE (Waste Analysis Plan): Current operations test for PCBs after commingling, which conflicts with a requirement of the permit, which requires testing before commingling of the waste oil. Conditions to ensure that dilution does not occur should be imposed by DTSC if the facility submits a permit modification request to modify the WAP. DTSC must amend the permit to ensure that PCBs are not introduced or discharged from the facility's wastewater treatment unit.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-14 by CBE (Waste Analysis Plan): The permit should require the facility to test for dioxin. Moreover, the health risk assessment does not adequately evaluate the risk associated with accepting dioxins and furans or producing them as a result of incomplete combustion ..."

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a specific condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a).

By way of explanation, the facility is not authorized to accept dioxins and there are no permitted processes at the facility that are likely to produce dioxins or furans. In addition, the health risk evaluation requested is a CEQA related item. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA.

For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

<u>COMMENT 1-15 by CBE (Waste Analysis Plan):</u> This permit should not be issued unless and until there is review and concurrence by the Statewide Compliance Division.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for these reasons, the petition to review is denied. The regulations require that the permit be issued by the Department. They do not require review by any particular unit within the Department.

COMMENT 1-16 by CBE (Acceptance of Reactive Hazardous Waste): Language ensuring that ISOCI will analyze each shipment of bulk waste for the characteristic of reactivity must be added to both the WAP and to Permit special condition 2.q.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-17 by CBE (Acceptance of Reactive Hazardous Waste): Ten percent sampling frequency for containerized waste is insufficient to ensure ISOCI will not be accepting reactive wastes. All containers of waste codes F007-F011 should be sampled and analyzed to ensure none of them exhibit the characteristic of reactivity. Table III-1 of the WAP should be revised to remove any reference to reactivity being allowed for waste codes F007-F011. ISOCI should be expressly prohibited from accepting all waste codes in which reactives may be present.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations,

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title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment.

comment 1-18 by CBE (Storate of Cyanide-Containing Hazardous Waste): CBE is extremely concerned that the permit allows the facility to accept cyanide-containing hazardous waste and that such wastes could be stored in an unsafe railcar on the rail spur for up to one year. ISOCI should not be allowed to accept cyanide-containing waste but, if it does, DTSC must require tougher security measures at the facility, to protect the public.

Response: The Appeal Comment presents no specific facts showing why the security requirements which the facility must meet in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66264.14 are not protective. Accordingly, the Department finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason denies the request for review.

COMMENT 1-19 by CBE (Truck Loading and Unloading Containment): The containment capacities of the truck loading/unloading areas are insufficient. Health and Safety Code section 25200.19 provides that loading/unloading must be conducted within containment that is "capable of collecting leaks and spills that may reasonably be anticipated to occur during loading and unloading operations." It is reasonable to anticipate that a large earthquake can cause a release. Even if DTSC disagrees, sound policy requires DTSC to require full containment to protect the surrounding community. Further, the Permit must be amended to require higher containment walls and larger containment footprints for the truck loading/unloading areas based on the significant impact from a potential release, the risk of which is increased by the staging of trucks awaiting unloading, anticipated to take up to 24 hours.

Response: Health and Safety Code section 25200.19 requires spill containment for leaks and spills that may reasonably be anticipated during

loading and unloading operations. The risk of an earthquake causing a truck to tip over or otherwise release its contents is too attenuated to warrant imposition of additional containment on the facts presented. Accordingly, the Department finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason denies the request for review.

COMMENT 1-20 by CBE (Truck Loading and Unloading Activities): DTSC must clarify exactly which hazardous waste management activities will be taking place in the "Truck Loading/Unloading and Storage Areas" described in Figure II-4 in the Part B application. If the area is used for storage, this is one more reason secondary containment meeting the regulatory requirements for hazardous waste container storage of California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66264.175 should be constructed for the area.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised in this comment.

**COMMENT 1-21 by CBE (Truck Loading and Unloading Activities):** DTSC must add a narrative to the permit that describes both the truck loading/unloading activities and the loading/unloading areas, as other permits do.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-22 by CBE (Segregation of Incompatible Wastes): The permit must be amended to include a condition specifying how ISOCI will comply with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66264.177, which requires segregation of incompatible wastes.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations,

title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-23 by CBE(Segregation of Incompatible Wastes): DTSC must require ISOCI to demonstrate how the facility will evaluate whether an incoming waste is incompatible with other wastes that are being stored at the facility, and include appropriate conditions in the permit to ensure that this evaluation occurs.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

<u>COMMENT 1-24 by CBE (Operating Record):</u> CBE demands that DTSC not issue the permit until it is certain that all regulations and procedures, including Operating Record implementation, will be properly followed, and the permit has been amended to require that the Operating Record be maintained in electronic form.

Response: Except for its final clause, this Appeal Comment does not relate to a condition of the permit and the petition for review is denied for this reason. With regard to the statement in the final clause regarding an electronic Operating Record, DTSC agrees that, although an electronic Operating Record may be desirable, a manual Operating Record is sufficiently protective.

Accordingly, the Department finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason denies the request for review.

# <u>Waste</u>): DTSC should require ISOCI to list in the Part B application every piece of

equipment that will be used to handle hazardous waste. DTSC should require

compliance with 22 CCR §§ 66270.14 and 66264.112(b)(4).

Response: The description of equipment to be used at the facility, contained in Section VIII (Management Practices) of the Part B Permit, fulfills

these requirements. See Response 4-26 of DTSC's Response to Comments dated December 2006.

By way of explanation, California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66270.14(b)(8) refers to procedures, structures, or equipment used at the facility to prevent or mitigate releases, spills, and human exposure. After review of the application, DTSC finds that the application is adequate in this respect.

Accordingly, the Department finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason denies the request for review.

**COMMENT 1-26 by CBE (Staging of Hazardous Waste Containers):** DTSC must scrutinize ISOCI's hazardous waste container management practices in greater detail and amend the permit to include a description of authorized staging practices for hazardous waste containers.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of authorized staging practices for hazardous waste containers.

COMMENT 1-27 by CBE (Storage Tank Assessment): DTSC must amend the permit to require ISOCI to inspect and certify its tanks every three years by a professional engineer. DTSC has included a special permit condition requiring tank assessment every five years in accordance with the API 653 standard but it does not require that inspection be certified by a professional engineer. DTSC also has not explained the basis for selecting the 5 year interval. The special condition must be revised to require certification by a California registered professional engineer with a confined space certification.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

By way of explanation, it should be noted that Special Condition (1)a. does require the tank assessments to be done in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 22, division 4.5, article 14, chapter 10, which includes the requirements that these assessments be certified by a California registered professional engineer.

<u>COMMENT 1-28 by CBE (Closure Cost Estimates):</u> The closure cost estimates for both existing and proposed operations, stated in special condition 1 of the Permit, are insufficient.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

<u>COMMENT 1-29 by CBE (Closure Plan):</u> CBE requests that DTSC require ISOCI to revise the closure plan to list all facilities permitted to handle waste generated during closure of the facility. CBE also requests that the closure plan be revised so that it is consistent with the closure cost estimate.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-30 by CBE (Wastewater Treatment System): The description of waste streams to be treated by the Waste Water Treatment System (WWTS) in the permit is inconsistent with the description in the HRA. "Oil containing liquid waste" is one of the waste streams going to the WWTS, which can include PCB's. DTSC must ensure that PCB's are prevented from entering the WWTS. Based on the waste codes to be accepted by the WWTS, it appears that it should be subject to Clean Water Act requirements under the definition of "centralized waste treatment facility" See 40CFR437.20, et seq. The permit must be amended to specifically require ISOCI to comply with any applicable pre-treatment standards established by Clean Water Act regulations.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

COMMENT 1-31 by CBE (Part B Application): CBE requests that DTSC require ISOCI to reorganize the Part B application, remove extraneous portions, ensure all sections are current, and eliminate internal inconsistencies. Three Notices of Deficiency should have been issued for the Part B application.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Accordingly, the Department finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason denies the request for review.

COMMENT 1-32 by CBE (Engineer Certification of Part B Application): It is unclear from the Part B application which engineer prepared the application. The most recent signature by a professional engineer in the permit application is several years old even though elements of the application were completed more recently. The design drawings for the treatment processes include numerous disclaimers stating that a particular drawing was prepared by others and that the engineer did not review or approve of the drawing. DTSC must require that the design engineer issue a statement endorsing the design drawings for the treatment processes and certify that the processes are protective of public health and safety.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Accordingly, the Department finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason denies the request for review.

As noted in Response 4-36 of the December 2006 Response to Comments, the Part B application was prepared by the ISOCI facility, although

several engineers worked on portions of the facility's Part B application. The regulations require that only the tank assessments and the secondary containment design and calculations be prepared and certified by an independent professional engineer registered in California. Upon review, DTSC has determined that Tank and secondary containment assessments and certifications, as presented in the Part B Application, Volumes 2 and 6, meet the applicable regulatory requirements. The drawings with qualifying statements mentioned in the comment are not a part of Volume 6 of the Part B Application, which contains the required certifications.

<u>COMMENT 1-33 BY CBE (ISOCI's Compliance Record):</u> CBE is concerned that dEIR omitted discussion of ISOCI's compliance record and wants DTSC to re-circulate the EIR for further review.

Response: This Appeal Comment pertains to the EIR, preparation of which is a part of the CEQA process. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. The comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for these reasons, the petition to review is denied.

<u>COMMENT 1-34 by CBE (ISOCI's Compliance Record):</u> ISOCI should be placed into DTSC's Enhanced Surveillance Inspection category until such time that the facility is inspected and no violations are found.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Accordingly, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the request for review. Notwithstanding denial of this request for review, DTSC retains its rights to

conduct enhanced surveillance and monitoring at ISOCI if in the future it is determined that such action is necessary.

COMMENT 1-35 by CBE (CORRECTIVE ACTION): The Permit requires that ISOCI conduct corrective action pursuant to the Corrective Action Consent Agreement issued on August 11, 2000. However, the permit does not establish a date by which the RFI must be performed. DTSC's failure to include a compliance schedule for completion of the RFI violates federal RCRA and state law. DTSC must comply with applicable requirements by establishing schedules of compliance for corrective action at the facility and amending the permit to include those schedules. The permit must be amended to conduct corrective action beyond the facility boundary, where necessary.

Response: The ISOCI facility is obligated to implement the RFI and other requirements that are necessary to comply with the Corrective Action Consent Agreement, according to the schedule that is agreed to in the Consent Agreement. Although a date is not specified for completion of the RFI and other requirements, the Consent Agreement requires that each phase of the corrective action be completed within a certain number of days after DTSC approval. In the end, this ensures that each step is completed to the DTSC's satisfaction, with the result that the corrective action is effective and protective. Accordingly, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason denies the request for review.

<u>COMMENT 1-36 by CBE (CORRECTIVE ACTION):</u> DTSC must amend the permit to require ISOCI to evaluate groundwater contamination and soil vapor intrusion within a short period of time and prior to completion of the RFI.

Response: The ISOCI facility is involved in and will be implementing requirements that are necessary to comply with the Corrective Action Consent Agreement, according to the schedule set forth in the Consent Agreement. Interested parties are encouraged to participate in the corrective action process

for the facility. Accordingly, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the request for review.

COMMENT 1-37 by CBE (CORRECTIVE ACTION): DTSC must determine whether the drinking water well located one-quarter mile from the facility is an active production well and whether it is threatened by contamination from the facility, and provide this critical information to the public.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Accordingly, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and, for this reason, denies the request for review. As stated in Response 4-35 of DTSC's Response to Comments of December 2006, ISOCI will be required to identify the nature and extent of contamination as part of the RFI. If it is determined that contamination has migrated from the facility and has impacted the groundwater, DTSC will require ISOCI to implement a Corrective Action Plan to address the contamination. Also, please note that Corrective Action will be required at the facility regardless of the outcome of the permit decision.

**COMMENT 1-38 by CBE:** Commencing at page 36 of its petition, in comments IV. A through IV. K, the petitioner raises issues with regard to the Health Risk Assessment.

Response: These Appeal Comments pertain to the Health Risk Assessment, which is a part of the CEQA document for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. Also, these comments do not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for

review of the issues raised in these Appeal Comments.

**COMMENT 1-39 by CBE:** Commencing at page 45 of its petition, in comments V. A through V. U, and VI., the petitioner raises issues with regard to the Final EIR.

Response: These Appeal Comments pertain to the CEQA documents for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. Also, these Appeal Comments do not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in these Appeal Comments.

#### 2. Petition filed by Terry Cano.

**Comment 2-1 by Terry Cano**: Community outreach was not adequate.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason, the petition to review is denied.

By way of explanation, the Department believes the public outreach program for this permit application satisfies all applicable regulatory requirements. As explained in Response 1-3 of DTSC's Response to Comments document dated December 18, 2006, DTSC carried out extensive public outreach efforts to inform the affected members of the public and stakeholders of this permit decision. Further, the effectiveness of the program is demonstrated by the numerous and thoughtful comments received during the process. See also the response to Comment 1-3.

<u>Comment 2- 2 by Terry Cano:</u> There was no confirmation from the emergency responders listed that they will be able to safely handle an incident.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason, the petition to review is denied.

By way of explanation, the local fire department and other emergency responders can be expected to review the proposed development if and when the facility begins the process of obtaining any local permits.

<u>Comment 2- 3 by Terry Cano:</u> DTSC should review why the city does not have jurisdiction over granting of this permit.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason, the petition to review is denied.

By way of explanation, the legislature of California has given DTSC the authority and jurisdiction over the issuance of hazardous waste facility permits. Although the City of Los Angeles does not have such authority or jurisdiction, it is empowered in areas that are not within the jurisdiction of DTSC, such as land use decisions. Many government agencies may be involved in the process of reviewing and approving various types of permits or authorizations that may be necessary to operate the proposed facility. DTSC's role in providing a decision on the hazardous waste facility permit is only a part of the entire process.

<u>Comment 2- 4 by Terry Cano:</u> City Sanitation was not notified that ISOCI will be discharging its materials into the City's public sewer system.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition

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of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason, the petition to review is denied.

Please note that the facility must comply with all laws and regulations applicable to its operations, including discharges into the sewer system. Further, the General Conditions require that the facility to obtain the necessary permits prior to construction of new units such as the Waste Water Treatment System (WWTS), thereby ensuring the involvement of City Sanitation.

<u>Comment 2- 5 by Terry Cano:</u> In the DTSC acknowledgment of one truck spill every six years it was not clear what the exposure danger would be to residents and local schools, and the evacuation process, if needed.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Further, this Appeal Comment appears to pertain to the CEQA documents for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. The Department finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Comment 2- 6 by Terry Cano: DTSC should review the length of time a company can operate under an interim permit, and the time a company has to complete the application process. This company has been operating under an interim permit for 21 years.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For this reason, the

Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Comment 2- 7 by Terry Cano: DTSC should review the policy on what is an acceptable risk to residents and workers and, what compensation (should be paid) to those affected by an acceptable risk.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment appears to pertain to the CEQA documents for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

<u>Comment 2- 8 by Terry Cano:</u> DTSC should review policy on how many violations a company can commit before their permit is revoked.

Response: The Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a), and for this reason, the petition to review is denied.

By way of explanation, under applicable law DTSC may exercise its discretion to commence revocation proceedings against a permittee where certain requirements are met. See Health and Safety Code section 25186.

<u>Comment 2-9 by Terry Cano:</u> Appended to Ms. Cano's submission is a signature petition with approximately 210 signatures, with the following statement at the top of each page: "We the undersigned join together with Los Angeles City Councilmember Jose Huizar in opposing the expansion of a hazardous waste facility at 1700 S. Soto in Boyle Heights and we oppose any conditional

use permit being granted for the expansion. The expansion of this facility would pose a significant health and public safety risks, endangering the lives of the people of the City of Los Angeles and would undermine plans for revitalization of the community and the adjacent Los Angeles River."

Response: The Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For this reason, the Department denies the petition for review of the issue raised in this Appeal Comment.

By way of explanation, DTSC is not the agency that will be making the conditional use decision regarding expansion. The City of Los Angeles has such authority and the petitioner is advised to take up this matter with the local land use authority.

#### 3. Petition filed by E P CONSULTANTS on behalf of ISOCI:

Comment 3-1 by ISOCI: Petitioner states that the requirement in the draft permit for PCB testing on each truck-to-receiving tank transfer of used oil is unnecessary and establishes a precedent which would pose an obstacle to the routine collection and transportation of used oil in California. Special Condition 2(b) on page 52 of the Final Permit requires that information sheets and waste profile forms shall include results for PCBs for all incoming loads. This requirement should be modified.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issues raised by this comment.

<u>Comment 3-2 by ISOCI:</u> Special Condition 1(b) on page 52 of the Final Permit, the closure cost estimate (CCE), represents an erroneous application of the law. The CCE is based on an actual quote from a third-party contractor. DTSC used one or more software programs to develop its estimate.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised by this comment.

<u>Comment 3-3 by ISOCI</u>: Special Condition 2(f) on page 53 of the Final Permit, requiring that all waste profiles shall be analyzed by a certified laboratory on an annual basis. This requirement is unnecessarily burdensome and costly to generators, especially those who conduct auto and truck repair and maintenance services and produce used oil and spent antifreeze.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

Comment 3-4 by ISOCI: Special Condition 2(u) on page 57 of the Final Permit states, as a new condition, that "the permit for the proposed units shall not become effective until the applicant is granted a local land used (sic) permit." It is clearly erroneous for DTSC to impose land use conditions which are not within DTSC's statutory jurisdiction, and this statement should be stricken from the permit. The first part of the Special Condition, stating that ISOCI shall not begin construction without the required local permits is sufficient to ensure that ISOCI will obtain land use permits as necessary and required by local laws and regulations. ISOCI, located within an M3 "heavy industrial" zone, is permitted by right to conduct various existing and proposed activities.

Response: Pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and (c), the Department is granting review of the issue raised in this comment.

#### 4. Petition filed by Los Angeles City Councilmember Huizar

Comment 4-1 by Councilmember Huizar (BOYLE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLAN

OBJECTIVES): The Final EIR dated December 2006 indicated that the Boyle Heights

Community Plan has the objective to preserve industrial land for industrial uses. That is a myopic view of the community plan. The Boyle Heights Community Plan is currently

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being rewritten as one of the seven community plans being entirely revamped by the Department of City Planning. The newly rewritten Plan will incorporate further opportunities for redevelopment and revitalization, transit-oriented development and industrial/residential mixed use, in addition to significant incorporation of the community with the Los Angeles River and the implementation of urban design guidelines. This policy information was not known at the time of the original assessment and DTSC should most certainly consider it.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment appears to pertain to the EIR, which is a CEQA document for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Comment 4-2 by Councilmember Huizar (FUTURE LAND USES): Pages 34-35 of the Health Risk Assessment contains a factual error and makes presumptions about future land uses in an area that has been clearly identified in public policy for redevelopment and which is currently undergoing a complete overhaul of its Community Plan. Gold Line expansion and transit oriented development is being planned and promoted which could easily have a residual affect on the development in this area. The Los Angeles River Master Plan will revitalize the Los Angeles River, offer connectivity and access from communities all along the historic water channel and provide opportunities to reassess zoning and planning needs in areas near and adjacent to the River. This facility is directly adjacent to the Los Angeles River.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue

pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment appears to pertain to the Risk Assessment, which is a supplemental document of the EIR, and is a CEQA document for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Comment 4-3 by Councilmember Huizar (POPULATION, HOUSING, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES): In the Final EIR there are erroneous statements of fact, such as Chapter 3-1, which states population, housing and cultural resources are considered less than significant resources in this area.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment pertains to the EIR, which is a CEQA document for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

#### Comment 4-4 by Councilmember Huizar (NOx EMISSIONS MITIGATION

OPTIONS): In Attachment 1 – Statement of Finding; Overriding considerations; and Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan, DTSC indicates the project impacts due to the operation of this facility would exceed significance thresholds for nitrogen oxide emissions and will remain significant. DTSC indicates mitigation measures will not reduce NOx emissions from truck and railcar activities below the significance threshold and that no other feasible mitigation measures or project alternatives have been identified. In the same document, DTSC identifies two project alternatives: the No

Project Alternative (redaction of all permission to operate) and the Reduced Operation Project Alternative (continuing current operations without expansion or increased operations). The Final EIR identifies the latter alternative as the environmentally superior choice and would reduce overall project impacts. This is a factual error and draws an erroneous conclusion. DTSC states that no other feasible mitigation measures have been identified, though it identified the latter alternative as the environmentally preferred choice. It is a factual error to indicate no other mitigation measures have been identified.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment appears to pertain to a CEQA document for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

BURDEN ON CITY EMERGENCY & LIFE SUPPORT RESOURCES): During inspections conducted in May of 1992, February 1993, September 1993, and July 1994, ISOCI was cited for violations. With significant compliance issues on their record as a simple oil and anti-freeze recycling facility, it does not seem prudent to allow the expansion of this facility for processing and long-term storage of a significantly wider range of hazardous and toxic materials including hazardous wastewater, sludge, and a myriad of other chemical contaminants which are known to be hazardous, cancer-causing agents. The DTSC is erroneous in its assessment that the ISOCI is equipped to handle these toxins in a safe manner, and I appeal to the DTSC to revoke the pending approval of this

permit. The City of Los Angeles, not the DTSC, will be the agency called upon to bear the burden of what I believe could be a grave mistake in the issuance of this permit. The people of Los Angeles and the life support and emergency response systems of our City would bear the burden in the event of a spill, yet to this date the City has had no legal jurisdiction over the permitting process. The location of this facility near the Los Angeles River makes a potential spill a threat to the entire region. Even if the risks of a major regional disaster related to the facility are "less than significant," that is not a risk the City should be forced to consider without having had any jurisdiction whatsoever over the permitting process.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment appears to pertain to matters considered in CEQA process, such as evaluation of risk and impact on local responders, which are documented in the EIR. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

It should be noted that local governments do have authority over facilities like ISOCI through issuance of land use permits. Through its land use permitting process, the City will be able to evaluate the proposed expansion and the needs of emergency response services. The issuance of a permit by the Department is not a shield from compliance with local land use requirements including provisions of emergency response services. The DTSC permitting process is only one of several permitting processes ISOCI must complete in order to construct and operate its proposed units.

Comment 4-6 by Councilmember Huizar (CREATION OF COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY PROEJCT AREA): Though the Redevelopment Plan,

Section 408.4, p. 15, requires submission of all development plans to the Agency and conformity to the Plan, inter alia, the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) has not had the opportunity to review the development plan concerning the Eastside Adelante Project Area. However, the Agency has indicated to me that the proposed expansion of the ISOCI facility conflicts with a number of the goals, objectives and specific requirements of the Redevelopment Plan, especially in terms of the agency's mission to improve the quality of the environment, which includes an emphasis on industrial uses that are environmentally safe. The proposed expansion poses significant environmental risks which are not appropriate under the CRA's objectives, nor for the well-being of the people of the City of Los Angeles.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment appears to pertain to a CEQA document for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

It should be noted that the permit does not exempt the facility from compliance with local land use permitting requirements. On the contrary, the permit requires such compliance. The City of Los Angeles can take into account its future land use plans while acting on OSOCI's conditional land use application for the proposed expansion. Please also see response to Comment 4-5.

#### Comment 4-7 by Councilmember Huizar (LOCAL LAND USE DISCRECTION/

TANNER ACT): The Final EIR erroneously states that ISOCI has submitted a Notice of Intent. The comment further states that JRJ Associates, representing ISOCI, submitted a notice of intent for a specified hazardous waste project under Health and Safety Code 26199.7 in December 1995. ISOCI filed a conditional use permit application to

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modernize its facility on August 1, 1996, under City Plan Case number 1996-0288-CU. However, this case was terminated by the City Planning Department by letter dated December 20, 2004, for lack of response by the applicant. Further, the currently proposed expansion includes a 2.64 acre parcel not covered by the previous application. The Health and Safety Code, section 25199.7, states "A notice of intent is not transferable to a location other that the specific location specified in the notice..."

**Response:** This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Further, this Appeal Comment is related to local land use permit application. requirements of the Tanner Act regarding filing Notices of Intent, and is possibly related to the CEQA document for this project. The state of the law is that the only option available to DTSC is to condition the effectiveness of the permit on the applicant obtaining any necessary local land use permits. As stated previously, land use decisions are outside the jurisdiction of DTSC and DTSC has no authority to compel an applicant to initiate the Tanner process. Further, CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment. Comment 4-8 by Councilmember Huizar (MISREPRESENTATION BY THE **APPLICANT**): ISOCI misrepresented itself and its intentions when it stated in the application's Project Description that it will "apply for a Conditional Use Permit prior to completion of the EIR." The EIR process has already been conducted and the applicant has failed to file a valid Notice of Intent to apply to the City of Los Angeles for any conditional use permit for the relevant operation/or expansion of their facility.

More that 11 years has passed since the ISOCI filed its notice of intent to apply for a City of Los Angeles Conditional Use Permit which was never acted upon and was deemed terminated. Therefore, the City of Los Angeles is not now, nor has it been for

the past decade, in the position to initiate an Local Assessment Committee (LAC) under the Tanner Act, which in turn means the people of our City have not had the fullest opportunity to comment on the parameters of the permit and be part of developing potential mitigation measures and conditions thereto. The fact that ISOCI has, to date, (1) failed to act on clear direction that a conditional use permit from the City of Los Angeles will be required; (2) has failed to file a Notice of Intent for the current scope of the project, and (3) has failed to re-schedule a meeting to discuss their status and City requirements is of great concern to me.

By not applying for a CUP, ISOCI is circumventing the LAC formation which is essential to community participation. In other words, the facility has deprived the community of meaningful participation in the permit determination process by failing to submit a land use application to local agencies.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

DTSC acknowledges that it would have been desirable to run the conditional use permit process in parallel with DTSC's permit process. However, DTSC lacks the authority to require the applicant or the City of Los Angeles to proceed with the conditional use permit process concurrently with the hazardous waste facility permit process. Issuance of the permit does not shield the facility from compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements, including local land use requirements.

It should be noted that DTSC implemented an extensive public participation program (see Response 1-3 of the DTSC Response to Comments Document dated December 18, 2006). The City may conduct further community out reach activities and consider public input before issuing its conditional land use decision on the proposed expansion.

#### 5. Petition filed by CRA/LA

<u>Comment 5-1 by CRA/LA:</u> As the lead agency, DTSC should have coordinated its evaluation of hazardous waste issues associated with the project and opportunities for public participation with the Tanner Act process.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Ideally, the permit determination process would occur in tandem with the Tanner process. However, DTSC cannot withhold its permit determination on the grounds that the applicant has not been granted a land use permit. Health and Safety Code section 25199.3(a). Please also see response to Appeal Comments 1-2 and 4-8.

<u>Comment 5-2 by CRA/LA:</u> The proposed development conflicts with the Adelante Eastside Redevelopment Plan and its objectives in the area of environmental quality, housing, commercial retail shopping, and industrial development. The proposed uses are incompatible with the Plan's objective to create an attractive and pleasant environment in the Project Area.

Response: Land use decisions are outside the scope of the jurisdiction of DTSC. The authority to determine compliance with local requirements is vested in various local agencies, which are duly empowered to consider issues and applications before them. This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Comment 5-3 by CRA/LA: The proposed development conflicts with the Boyle Heights

Community Plan and its objectives and policies in the area of commercial redevelopment, industrial objectives, and creation of buffer zones.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment. Please see the Response to Comment 5-2, above, for further explanation.

<u>Comment 5-4 by CRA/LA:</u> The proposed expansion conflicts with the Air Quality Element of the City's General Plan.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment. Please see the Response to Comment 5-2, above, for further explanation.

<u>Comment 5-5 by CRA/LA:</u> The evaluation of air quality impacts in the Health Risk Assessment is deficient.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment pertains to the CEQA documents for this project. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Comment 5-6 by CRA/LA: DTSC should amend the permit to require that ISOCI

obtain a determination from CRA/LA that the proposed expansion and modification of the facility is consistent with the Community Plan before the permit can become effective, and recirculate a new EIR that evaluates the impacts from conflicts between the project and the Community Plan as well as measures to mitigate those impacts.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Please see the Response to Comment 5-2, above, for further explanation. DTSC cannot withhold its permit determination on the grounds that the applicant has not been granted a land use permit. See Health and Safety Code section 25199.3(a).

Further, this Appeal Comment requests that a new EIR be recirculated.

Objections to CEQA documents for this project are not resolved in the permit appeal process. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

<u>Comment 5-7 by CRA/LA:</u> Notice to interested parties and public outreach were inadequate.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). The record does not show that the notice provided did not meet regulatory notice requirements. The Department did in fact provide significant public outreach. For further information, please refer to Comments 1-3, 1-4, and 1-5. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issues raised in this Appeal Comment.

Comment 5-8 by CRA/LA: The project appears to violate EPA's environmental justice policy because the Draft EIR does not evaluate its impact on the surrounding

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community, which already is exposed to nearby facilities that handle hazardous waste.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment pertains to the EIR, preparation of which is a part of the CEQA process. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issue raised in this Appeal Comment.

<u>Comment 5-9 by CRA/LA:</u> The various documents and analyses upon which DTSC is basing the proposed action contain material flaws. The Final EIR failed to identify sensitive receptors near the ISOCI facility.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment pertains to the EIR, preparation of which is a part of the CEQA process. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issue raised in this Appeal Comment.

<u>Comment 5-10 by CRA/LA:</u> Also, the Fact Sheet is flawed and inaccurate. This Fact Sheet is misleading in that it fails to adequately describe the proposed activities. Specifically, the fact Sheet:

- Does not disclose that the facility plans to accept and manage up to 380 RCRA hazardous waste codes, including cyanide-containing wastes and ignitable hazardous wastes
- Does not explain that any of the 380 RCRA waste codes may be stored in unprotected rail cars on a rail spur for up to one year;

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- Does not explain that the rail spur has an inadequate containment system
- Provides an unrealistic picture of facility's compliance history ... and;
- Inaccurately describes the health risks posed by the proposed operation.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issue raised in this Appeal Comment. By way of explanation, the Fact Sheet is meant to provide basic summary information about the facility, the action being taken by the Department and how interested persons can participate in the Department's proposed decision. The Fact Sheet adequately describes the proposed action, and refers the reader to the Draft Permit and associated documents. The Fact Sheet lists DTSC staff who may be contacted for additional information.

Comment 5-11 by CRA/LA: DTSC has not adopted any mitigation measures proposed by the Agency to reduce land use impacts.

Response: This Appeal Comment does not request review of a condition of the permit. Therefore, DTSC finds that Petitioner has failed to meet the burden to establish that the Department should grant a review of this issue pursuant to the criteria set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a). Further, this Appeal Comment pertains to the EIR, preparation of which is a part of the CEQA process. CEQA provides a separate judicial appeal process to resolve disputes concerning compliance with CEQA. For these reasons, the Department denies the petition for review of the issue raised in this Appeal Comment.

#### VI. ORDER

For the reasons set forth above, the Department has determined that Appeal Comments 1-7, 1-9, 1-11, 1-12, 1-13, 1-16, 1-17, 1-20, 1-21, 1-22, 1-23, 1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29, 1-30, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, and 3-4 meet the criteria for granting a review pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(a) and the Department is granting review of these Comments. The Department finds, however, that Petitioners have failed to demonstrate that the remainder of the Appeal Comments meet the criteria for review. Therefore, the Department is denying all other portions of the petitions for review.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(c), the Department will establish a briefing schedule for this appeal, during which time interested parties may file written arguments pertaining to the issues of the Appeal Comments for which the review has been granted. All arguments must be accompanied by supporting rationale.

Arguments filed after the close of the briefing schedule or comments relating to issues other than those for which review has been granted will not be accepted. The briefing schedule and this Order will be announced in a public notice pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.18(c). The briefing period will be put forth in the public notice and the actual closing date will be specified in the public notice. All arguments pertaining to the Appeal Comments that have been granted review must be filed in writing, postmarked by the date specified in the public notice, and mailed to:

Mr. Mohinder S. Sandhu, P.E., Chief Standardized Permitting and Corrective Action Branch Department of Toxic Substances Control 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento, California 95826

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.15, the contested permit conditions and uncontested conditions which are not severable from

the contested permit conditions are stayed pending completion of the briefing period. The conditions in the permit for which review has been granted are not severable from those which are not being reviewed. Therefore, all provisions of the permit decision issued for this Facility on December 18, 2006, are hereby stayed pending the decision after the briefing of the Appeal Comments for which review has been granted. Date: June 29, 2007 //original signed by// Mohinder S. Sandhu, P.E., Chief Standardized Permitting and Corrective Action Branch **Department of Toxic Substances Control**